

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

April 22, 2018 at 11 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited to to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

✠ Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

GATHERING IN GOD’S PRESENCE

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Chancel Choir
What Gift Can We Bring?

✠ CALL *to* WORSHIP Troy Prevot
Come to the house of the Lord. Come with your prayers,
your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.
**We bring the gift of prayer to this house. We raise
to God our hopes and our fears,
our wounds and our triumphs.**

We bring the gift of our presence, being together in worship
and fellowship, work and witness.

**We bring the gift of our resources, given freely
from our hearts to be used in service to God.**

We bring the gift of service, commitment of our time and
talents to serve God by working in God’s world.

**We will go into the world witnessing
about God’s love and grace, which we
experience together today.**

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE UMH 92, vs. 1, 2, 4, 6
For the Beauty of the Earth

✠ OPENING PRAYER
**God of grace,
We hear your call to generous living in the way
you meet our needs each day, and in the peace
you give, which passes understanding.
Having received so much, we offer all we have -
our time, talents, and treasures for your kingdom.
Direct our lives to use our gifts as we reach out to our
neighbors, sharing those gifts through worship, witness,
and service, so that others will come to know you and
become disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

✠ GLORIA PATRI
**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

ENGAGING TOGETHER

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Pam Toney

Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.

*Ushers will pass out folders during the Children’s Moment. Please register
your attendance. If you have any joys or concerns please fill out a prayer card
found in the left pocket of the folder and place it in the offering plate.*

ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Love Unmeasured, Love of God

✠ SCRIPTURE Troy Prevot
Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves
and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents, to
another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he
went away.

¹⁶ The one who had received the five talents went off at once and
traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way,
the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the
one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the
ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled
accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five
talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you
handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’

²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying,
‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two
more talents.’ ²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will
put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward,
saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where
you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so
I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you
have what is yours.’

²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew,
did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did
not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the
bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own
with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one
with the ten talents.

²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an
abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have
will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the
outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

Based on Psalm 19:14

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in thy sight, thou who are my strength and my
redeemer. Amen.**

SERMON Pastor Lane
“Engage Through Your Gifts”

✠ HYMN of FAITH UMH 389
Freely, Freely

PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE
As our prayer time concludes, we will pray together the Lord’s Prayer.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS - THE WALK Danielle Blackwood

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* GIFTS *to* GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY UMH 95
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

INVITATION *to* CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*We joyfully welcome all those whose wish to become members of St. John’s
and invite you to come forward during the singing of the closing hymn.*

✠ HYMN of DISCIPLESHIP UMH 399
Take My Life and Let It Be

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

*After the service, all are invited to browse the Silent Auction for Missions
items in the Family Life Center until 12:30 p.m.
Bidding reopens at 3 p.m. and the crawfish boil starts at 4 p.m.*

*The flowers on the altar are given by Mariflyn Damberg
in honor of Richard on his upcoming birthday.*

Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. However, if you or your child would prefer, nursery care is available in the Administration Building next door; an usher can escort you. Children's bulletins and sermon sacks are available from an usher.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES

"Engage: Walking the Discipleship Pathway"

This sermon series focuses on the five membership "vows" in The United Methodist Church: Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness. Our Confirmation Classes are preparing to take these vows (or renew these vows) on Confirmation Sunday, May 20. As followers of Jesus we have been made new, but we are not a finished product. God's grace is constantly working within us to help us grow more and more like Jesus. We play a role in that, too. We must Engage in order to connect and grow with the body of Christ. Next Sunday we will Engage through our service; our scripture reading will be 2 Corinthians 5:16-21.

SILENT AUCTION FOR MISSIONS/CRAWFISH BOIL

Don't forget - the Silent Auction is open for bids from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will reopen at 3 p.m.; bidding continues until 6 p.m. If you are a winning bidder, please have your payment ready and take your item with you. If you have a ticket to the crawfish boil, we start serving at 4 p.m. Rain or Shine!

NEW YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

A Sunday School class for young adults is forming soon. There will be a "Meet and Greet" on **Sunday, May 6** at 10 a.m. in Room 202 (Youth Office) of the Admin Building. If you would like more information on the class, please contact Molly Means at mollygilmore16@gmail.com, otherwise just meet us on May 6 in Room 202.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Dates for Vacation Bible School have been set - **Monday, June 25 through Friday, June 29** from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. VBS is for ages 4 through those children who finished 5th grade this school year. Registration information and forms will be available soon, but mark your calendars for this special time in the lives of our children.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES CONTINUE

Please continue to encourage our youth confirmands on this part of their faith journey by writing them a note and placing it in their mailbox located in the narthex. Confirmands are Olivia Caputo, Devin Dickson, Grace Idikwu, Carissa Murray, Lydia Rahkawi, and Kaylie Williams. REMINDER: Both confirmation classes will meet today at 12:15 p.m. in the parlor. Lunch will be provided and the class should be over by 1:45 p.m.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, May 1** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Judy Koonce and Pat Lively will present a program on "Sacred Spaces of Nurturing." All women are invited to attend.

USHERS NEEDED

There is a need for ushers at both worship services. If you would like to take part in the life of St. John's in this way, please contact the church office or Fran Anderson at frances_anderson11@yahoo.com or 766-5325.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We ended the first quarter financially strong and the Finance Committee is pleased with our current projects. Year-to-date Revenue is \$11,806 above Budget and Expenses are \$1,756 higher than Budget. Thank you for your generosity to the missions and ministries of St. John's. If you have any questions, please contact Troy Prevot, our Finance Committee Chair, at tprevot@bellsouth.net.

THE WALK CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of March 31, 2018, we have received 67% of our \$1.4 million goal. Thank you for your generosity toward The Walk campaign! Our 3-year campaign continues. Please continue supporting the pledge you made to The Walk as we live into this final year of the campaign. If you haven't pledged, but would like to support The Walk going forward, please mark your checks with "The Walk." We celebrate the generosity of St. John's. We walk by faith, not by sight.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, April 22

SILENT AUCTION

8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
12:15 p.m. Confirmation Class-Youth, *Parlor*
12:15 p.m. Confirmation Class-Adults, *Library*
4:00 p.m. Crawfish Boil
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, April 23

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, April 24

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
4:45 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*

Wednesday, April 25

5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*
6:30 a.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

Thursday, April 26

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
10:00 a.m. Companions in Christ, *Library*
1:45 p.m. Everybody Reads Training, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, April 27

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*

Saturday, April 28

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: Zach and Kristine Isenhower, Bill and Jane Metcalf

Host: Barbara Lively

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
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Remember to pray for **The Walk**.
"...for we walk by faith, not by sight."
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NRSV)
#sjthewalk



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@stjohnsbr

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



Walking the
Discipleship
Pathway

APRIL 22, 2018

11 a.m. Worship Service

We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.